

Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL MUNICH IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 146165

EXDIS TOSEC 382

FOLLOWING REPEAT TEL AVIV 3726 ACTION SECSTATE JULY 6,

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 3726

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, IS

SUBJECT: SENATOR JAVITS DISCUSSIONS WITH RABIN, ALLON AND PERES

1. SENATOR JAVITS DEPARTED TEL AVIV THIS MORNING AFTER THREE DAYS IN WHICH HE CALLED ON SENIOR ISRAELI GOVT OFFICIALS AND DELIVERED AN ADDRESS. JAVITS GAVE AMB KEATING THE FOLLOWING HIGHLIGHTS ON HIS CONVERSATION WITH PRIMIN RABIN.

2. RABIN AGREED WITH JAVITS THAT THE "JACKSON-JAVITS AMENDMENT" TO THE FOREIGN TRADE ACT SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE PRESSED HARD IN CONGRESS AS "THE ONLY MEANS OF GETTING THE JEWS OUT OF THE SOVIET UNION." (DURING DISCUSSIONS OF THIS SUBJECT WITH THE SENATOR, AMB KEATING TOOK ISSUE WITH THE SENATOR, POINTING OUT THAT THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION SINCE 1969 HAD BEEN EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL IN INDUCING THE SOVIETS TO DRASTICALLY INCREASE THE RATE OF JEWISH IMMIGRATION THROUGH
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QUIET DIPLOMACY.) AS CONCERNS FUTURE PEACE TALKS, RABIN SAID

THAT HE WAS NOT NECESSARILY WEDDED TO THE NEXT MOVE BEING WITH EGYPT. IN FACT, RABIN WOULD CERTAINLY BE WILLING TO CONSIDER DISCUSSIONS WITH JORDAN AT AN EARLY DATE.

3. JAVITS TOLD THE AMB THAT HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH ALLON PARALLELED HIS DISCUSSION WITH RABIN.

4. AT SENATOR JAVITS' REQUEST, AMB KEATING ACCOMPANIED HIM ON HIS CALL ON DEFENSE MINISTER PERES. PERES DESCRIBED HIS "GOOD MEETING" IN WASHINGTON. DURING THE DISCUSSION ABOUT THE MAGNITUDE OF ISRAEL'S MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID REQUEST, PERES REFERRED TO A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT NIXON TO THE PRIME MINISTER WHICH HE CLAIMED OUTLINED IN DETAIL THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITMENT TO THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL AND INCLUDED THE PRESIDENT'S ENDORSEMENT OF A LARGE-SCALE TEN-YEAR PROGRAM OF ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE. PERES ALSO GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THIS LETTER SUPPORTED THE CURRENT MAGNITUDE OF ISRAEL'S AID REQUEST. (NOTE: AFTER THE MEETING JAVITS QUERIED THE AMB ON THIS LETTER. THE AMB REPLIED THAT TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE A LETTER OF THAT NATURE DID NOT EXIST. HE ADDED THAT THE LETTERS HE KNEW OF REAFFIRMED THE PRESIDENT'S GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL AND EXPRESSED GENERAL SYMPATHY FOR ISRAEL'S MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENT. THE AMBASSADOR OPINED THAT A LETTER AS DESCRIBED BY PERES HAD NOT BEEN TRANSMITTED. JAVITS STATED THAT HE ALSO DOUBTED THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH A LETTER AND SAID THAT THIS WOULD BE ONE OF THE ITEMS HE WOULD RAISE WITH THE SECRETARY IMMEDIATELY UPON HIS RETURN TO THE US.)

5. PERES STATED THAT " IN ALL CANDOR" ISRAELIS SENSE SOME SUBTLE CHANGE IN US POLICY TOWARDS ISRAEL. WHILE NOT QUESTIONING THE SINCERITY OF THE COMMITMENTS MADE BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY TO ISRAEL, HE CITED FOLLOWING EXAMPLES OF THIS CHANGE: (A) THE US ENTERED INTO THE NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT WITHOUT PRIOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE GOI; (B) THE VERY BELLIGERENT STATEMENTS MADE RECENTLY BY SADAT WHICH, GIVEN HIS NEW CLOSENESS TO THE US, ISRAELIS FIND HARD TO BELIEVE HE WOULD MAKE UNLESS HE FELT AT LEAST REASONABLY CERTAIN THAT THE US WOULD NOT REACT ADVERSELY TO THEM; (C) THE WORDING OF THE US-SOVIET COMMUNIQUE ON THE PALESTINIANS

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HAD ELEMENTS WHICH SUGGESTS A FURTHER EROSION IN THE US POSITION AND (D) DESPITE PRESS REPORTS TO THE CONTRARY, THE SOVIETS ARE AGAIN FURNISHING ARMS TO EGYPT (HE DID NOT ELABORATE ON HOW THIS, EVEN IF TRUE, WAS INDICATIVE OF CHANGES IN US SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL).

6. PERES THEN NOTED THAT HE AND OTHER ISRAELI LEADERS WERE "PUZZLED" BY WHAT APPEARS TO BE A SHIFT IN US US POLICY

REGARDING "NEXT STEPS" BASED ON HIS DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON. PERES EXPLAINED THAT THE ISRAELIS THOUGHT IT WAS CLEAR IN THEIR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SECRETARY HERE THAT THE NEXT STEP SOMETIME LATER THIS YEAR WOULD BE WITH EGYPT, I.E., A PHASE TWO. HE WAS, THEREFORE, SURPRISED IN WASHINGTON LEARN THAT THE US WAS HOPING FOR SOME EARLY MOVEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND JORDAN. IN THIS RESPECT, PERES STATED THAT THE GOI WAS NOT GOING TO WITHDRAW FROM THE WEST BANK IN THE NEAR FUTURE UNLESS THIS WAS PART OF AN OVERALL PEACE SETTLEMENT WITH JORDAN. HE NOTED THAT ISRAELIS BELIEVED THAT HUSSEIN WAS REALLY BETTER OFF TO WAIT AWHILE AND START BUILDING HIS STRENGTH ON THE WEST BANK.

7. THE CONVERSATION AGAIN RETURNED TO PROSPECTS FOR A LONG-TERM MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR ISRAEL WHICH JAVITS INITIATED BY ASKING PERES IF HE HAD RECEIVED THE DOCUMENTS ON THE MARSHALL PLAN WHICH JAVITS HAD FORWARDED TO HIM. PERES SAID HE HAD JUST RECEIVED THEM BUT HAD NOT YET HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY THEM. JAVITS NOTED THAT ISRAEL COULD NOT EXPECT APPROPRIATIONS ON OTHER THAN A ONE-YEAR BASIS BUT THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO GET LONGER TERM AUTHORIZATION FOR AID TO ISRAEL. IT WAS FOR THIS REASON, SAID JAVITS, THAT HE RECOMMENDS THAT THE ISRAELIS TRY TO USE THE MARSHALL PLAN AS A "PATTERN." IN THIS RESPECT, JAVITS MADE A STRONG PITCH RE THE NEED FOR THE GOI TO SPEND A LOT TIME CULTIVATING THE CONGRESS AND BROADER PUBLIC OPINION IN THE US AND NOT SPEND ITS TIME AND EFFORTS EXCLUSIVELY ON THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

8. JAVITS THEN TOLD PERES THAT HE AND RABIN HAD AGREED RE THE NEED TO CONTINUE PRESSURE FOR THE JACKSON-JAVITS AMENDMENT. (NOTE: IN HIS JULY 5 SPEECH, JAVITS ALSO HIT THIS THEME VERY HARD. THESE SENTIMENTS WERE ECHOED ALSO IN ALLON'S SPEECH MADE ON THE SAME OCCASION.)

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9. JAVITS TOLD PERES UPON LEAVING THAT HE WOULD BE SEEING THE SECRETARY IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS RETURN AND WOULD DISCUSS WITH HIM ALL ASPECTS OF HIS VISIT TO ISRAEL. VELIOTS

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